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standing of every student and lawyer of our time. The introduction also contains a complete and valuable bibliography of the printed editions of the *Tenures*. It is to be hoped that further volumes edited on the lines of the present one will soon be added to this series of classics.

W. H. H.

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF PRINCIPAL AND AGENT. By Francis B. Tiffany. St. Paul: West Publishing Co. 1903. pp. xiii, 609. 8vo.

As the preface states strongly the author's indebtedness to certain predecessors who have composed treatises or have edited cases, it is obvious that this book makes slight claim to originality. This has excited some criticism, but, it would seem, unjustly, for the author, going far beyond quotation and paraphrase, gives occasional discussions of his own and adds references not found elsewhere. The chief defect is the omission of about half of the subject of Agency, namely, the topics often treated under the head of Master and Servant. The blame for this omission seems not to rest upon the author, for he explains that it is caused by the plan of the series to which this book belongs. It would be possible, doubtless, to divide the law of Agency into parts and to assign them among Contracts, Torts, Criminal Law, Evidence, Equity, and Persons; but such a distribution of the subject would disregard and conceal the very important truth that Agency is a consistent science composed of interdependent parts, and any departure from the treatment of the whole subject as one science — such, for example, as the consigning of parts to Torts, Negligence, or wherever else this series may place the omitted topics — differs from that most objectionable course in degree only, and not in kind. The author must, it seems, bear the burden of a few slips. Surely it is a mistake to fail to modify the statement (p. 21, n. 6) that "a partner cannot bind his firm by deed unless authorized under seal." Again there is a pitfall for students in the statement (p. 90), in bold type, that "a contract of agency which contemplates an illegal object is void"; for this statement, especially as the context is "What acts can be done by an agent," encourages the inference that acts performed under such an agency create no liability against the principal and in behalf of the third person, and a neighboring passage (p. 91) which may set the thoughtful reader on the right track is not so placed or expressed as to overcome the danger of error. Again, the statement and discussion (pp. 167-169) as to formal powers of attorney cannot be considered adequate, for *North River Bank v. Aymar*, though cited, is not discussed, and seems to be quite inconsistent with a natural understanding of the text. Still again, the discussion (pp. 199-201) of fictitious bills of lading and the like is not adequate. It would be easy to lengthen this list of shortcomings, but to do so would give the unjust impression that this book is frequently inaccurate. The truth is that many of the shortcomings are the mere slips found in any first edition, and many others are mere examples of the danger lurking in general statements.

THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLICS: A Study in Recognition and Foreign Policy. By Frederic L. Paxson. Philadelphia: Ferris & Leach. 1903. pp. 264. 8vo.

The author of this small book has taken in hand a difficult task; and that he has offered an interesting book as the result of his work is subject for congratulation. The work cannot, however, be praised, without adding several qualifications. The style is extremely involved at times, making a second and even a third reading of a sentence necessary to get the full bearing or meaning of an ordinary statement of fact. That which mars the book most seriously, however, is the almost entire lack of summaries. The need of these is apparent when one considers the arrangement of the book. In an introduction the author considers the cases presented for recognition during the wars of the